

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-50. (Canceled)

51. (New) A handheld welder, comprising:

a sleeve;

a body that houses at least one battery, the body being at least partially movable within the sleeve;

a heater element coupled to a holder, the holder being coupled to the body;

a pair of clamps that each include a first portion and a second portion; and

a screw threadably coupled to the at least one clamp and capable of moving the at least one clamp toward the heater element when the screw is turned.

52. (New) The handheld welder of claim 51, wherein the screw is threadably coupled to each of the clamps.

53. (New) The handheld welder of claim 52, wherein the screw, or a combination of screws, includes left-handed and right-handed threads.

54. (New) The handheld welder of claim 53, further comprising a pair of guide rods disposed on opposite sides of the screw and extending through the clamps.

55. (New) The handheld welder of claim 52, wherein the holder is slidably coupled to the body and structured such that the heater element may be disposed between the pair of clamps based on movement of the body.

56. (New) The handheld welder of claim 55, wherein the holder is further structured such that the heater element may be disposed away from an area between the pair of clamps based on movement of the body.

57. (New) The handheld welder of claim 51, further comprising an end cap threadably coupled to the body and including a switch for electrically activating the at least one battery.

58. (New) The handheld welder of claim 51, wherein the handheld welder is cordless.

59. (New) The handheld welder of claim 51, wherein the pair of clamps include a groove for receiving a workpiece.

60. (New) A handheld welder, comprising:
a sleeve;
a body that houses at least one battery, the body being at least partially movable within the sleeve;
a heater element being coupled to a holder, the holder being coupled to the body; and
a pair of clamps each including a first portion and a second portion, the pair of clamps being coupled to and extending beyond an axial end of the sleeve.

61. (New) The handheld welder of claim 60, further comprising a screw, or a combination of screws, that include left-handed and right-handed threads and that are threadably coupled to the pair of clamps.

62. (New) The handheld welder of claim 61, further comprising a pair of guide rods disposed on opposite sides of the screw or the combination of screws.

63. (New) The handheld welder of claim 60, wherein the holder is slidably coupled to the body and structured such that the heater element may be disposed between the pair of clamps based on movement of the body.

64. (New) The handheld welder of claim 63, wherein the heater element is further structured such that the heater element may be disposed away from an area between the pair of clamps based on movement of the body.

65. (New) The handheld welder of claim 60, further comprising an end cap threadably coupled to the body and including a switch for electrically activating the at least one battery.

66. (New) The handheld welder of claim 60, wherein the handheld welder is cordless.

67. (New) The handheld welder of claim 60, wherein the pair of clamps include a groove for receiving a workpiece.

68. (New) A method of welding parts of a workpiece using a handheld welder, the method comprising:

inserting the workpiece parts between first clamp bodies and second clamp bodies of a clamping mechanism;

turning adjustment screws between first clamp bodies and second clamp bodies of the clamping mechanism to move the first clamp bodies toward the second clamp bodies and thereby retain the workpiece parts;

moving a heater element between the workpiece parts;

moving the workpiece parts against the heater element;

activating the heater element until the workpiece parts are at least partially melted;

removing the heater element from between the workpiece parts; and

moving the workpiece parts into engagement with one another to weld the parts together.

69. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the workpiece is an endless belt and the parts are two ends of the endless belt.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising moving the workpiece parts away from the heater element after the parts of the workpiece are at least partially melted.

71. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein at least one of the moving of the workpiece parts against the heater element, the moving of the workpiece parts away from the heater element, and the moving of the the workpiece parts into engagement with one another further comprising turning a knob.

72. (New) The method of claim 68, further comprising axially moving a body connected to the heater element within a sleeve of the handheld welder until the heater element is disposed away from an area between the workpiece parts.